pect of coffee, taking into account the cost of production. There is no immediate proposal for any hike in the above prices.

No support price is fixed for tea and pepper.

Joint Venture Proposal from IBM

3732. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether IBM (International Business Machines) has submitted a proposal for a joint venture with the Tata Group in the various electronic fields as reported in the 'Times of India' dated July 3, 1991;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) IBM have not submitted any formal proposal to the Government for a joint venture with the Tata Group.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Export of Molasses

3733. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sugar Mills Association have approached the Union Government and sought permission for export of molasses;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government of Maharashtra has also applied for licence to start distillery unit under the Co-operative Sector; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export of molasses is permitted based on its overall demand supply balance for the country, as a whole, assessed from time to time. During the current alcohol year, permission for export of 2.60 lakh tonnes of molasses has been given thus far.

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Status of Fertilizer Units

3734. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Public Sector Undertakings concerned with production of fertilizer in the country;

(b) the total accumulated losses of the undertakings till date:

(c) whether the Government propose to revamp these undertakings to produce fertilizers at competitive market price; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The present functioning status of 9 Public Sector Undertakings are given below:—

Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited(RCF), Madras Fertilizers Limited (MFL), National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) and Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited (PPCL) are earning profit. Projects and Development India Limited (PDIL) does not produce any fertilizers. Paradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL) has suffered losses on account of inadequate supply of imported phosphoric acid, labour problems, etc. Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation (HFC) is incurring losses

due to low capacity utilisation due to technology deficiency, deficiency in equipment, power problems, labour problems etc. Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd (FCI) is also incurring losses due to low capacity utilisation, obsolete technology, coal based technology being tried for the first time, power shortage at Ramagundam unit and supply of poor quality of coal at Talcher.

(b) The following are the details of the accumulated losses of the Public Sector Undertakings:—

S.No.	*Name of the Public Sector Undertakings*	*Amount of losses* (*Rs. in crores*)
1.	Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd.	1387.35 (including provisional loss of Rs. 170.33 crores for the year 1990-91).
2.	Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd.	1178.46 (including provisional loss of Rs. 228.76 crores for the year 1990-91).
3.	Projects and Development India Ltd.	67.20
4.	Paradeep Phosphates Limited	53.87 (including provisional loss of Rs. 30.80 crores for the year 1990-91).

(c) and (d) The revamping scheme identified in respect of FCI and HFC are as follows:—

FCI—upgradation of the Gorakhpur plant, phase-I rehabilitation including a captive power plant of 40 MW at Ramagundam plant, Phase-I rehabilitation of Talcher plant, modernisation of Sindri plant and setting up of a new captive power plant at Sindri.

HFC—In 1988, the consultants had recommended revamp/rehabilitation of the operating units (except Namrup-III) of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation. Since very large investments were involved, alternative proposal of a modest investment has been proposed by HFC.

There is no need for revamping the plant of PPL as it is a new plant and losses of PPL are mainly due to shortage of raw material.

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Heavy Water Project at Manuguru

3735. SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN: Will he PRIME MINISTER be pleased to sate:

(a) the original and revised dates of commissioning of Heavy Water Project at Manuguru;

(b) the cost escalations on account of delay in execution of the project;

(c) the reasons for delay in completion of the project as originally targetted; and

(d) the market value of the heavy water to be produced per annum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVACES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) The original date of commisioning of Heavy Water Project of Manuguru was April 1988 and the revised date is August 1991.